



# Southeast Fishery Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 9, 2000  
NR00-053

### TRIP LIMIT IN THE NORTHERN FLORIDA WEST COAST SUBZONE REDUCED TO 500 POUNDS PER DAY FOR COMMERCIAL VESSELS FISHING FOR KING MACKEREL

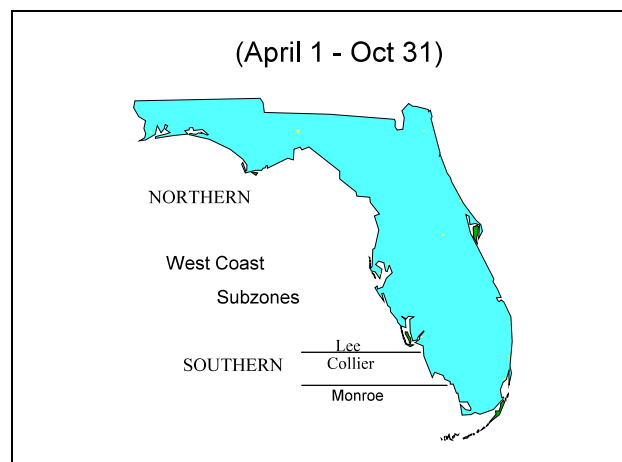
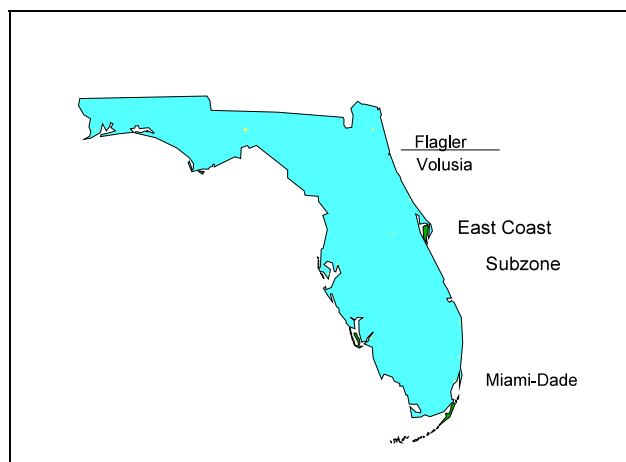
The daily vessel trip limit is reduced to 500 pounds beginning 12:01 a.m., November 12, 2000, for commercial vessels fishing for Gulf group king mackerel in the northern Florida west coast subzone. NOAA Fisheries reduced the trip limit after determining that 131,625 pounds or 75 percent of the 175,500-pound quota for this fishery segment had been taken.

The 500-pound trip limit is a daily landing/possession limit that applies to commercial vessels fishing for king mackerel in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the northern Florida west coast subzone. The northern subzone is that part of the Florida west coast subzone that lies within the boundaries of 26°19.8' N. lat. (a line directly west from the Lee/Collier County, FL boundary) and 87°31'06' W. long. (a line directly south from the Alabama/Florida boundary).

The 500-pound daily trip limit will remain in effect until the 175,500-pound quota is reached or through the end of the fishing year, June 30, 2001, whichever occurs first. When commercial landings for this fishery segment reach the quota level, the fishery will be closed for the remainder of the 2000/2001 fishing year. The closure will be effective upon filing the notification with the Office of the Federal Register.

A vessel fishing under commercial trip limits and quotas must possess a commercial Federal king mackerel permit. Quotas and trip limits (see reverse side of this bulletin), and permits implemented under the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic (FMP) are necessary to protect and rebuild the overfished Gulf group king mackerel resource.

### GULF GROUP KING MACKEREL SEASONAL BOUNDARIES



# STATUS OF QUOTAS AND DAILY TRIP/LANDING LIMITS FOR COMMERCIAL FISHERIES FOR GULF GROUP KING MACKEREL FOR THE 2000/2001 FISHING YEAR

ZONE/SUBZONE	QUOTA (POUNDS, lb)	DAILY VESSEL TRIP LIMITS	DURATION OF TRIP LIMITS			STATUS		
						BEGINNING	CURRENT	
EASTERN ZONE (Florida)	2,340,000							
East Coast Subzone <sup>1</sup>	1,082,250	50 Fish	Nov 1	until	1,082,250 lb	Opened	11/01/2000	<b>Open: 50 Fish/day</b>
West Coast Subzones	1,257,750							
<u>Northern</u>								
Hook and Line	175,500	1,250 lb 500 lb	July 1 Nov 12	until until	131,625 lb 175,500 lb	Opened	07/01/2000	<b>Open: 500 lb/day</b>
<u>Southern</u>								
Hook and Line	541,125	1,250 lb 500 lb	July 1 405,844	until until	405,844 lb 541,125 lb	Opened	07/01/2000	<b>Open: 1,250 lb/day</b>
Gillnet	541,125	25,000 lb	Jan 16 '01	until	541,125 lb	Opens	01/16/2001 <sup>2</sup>	<b>Closed</b>
WESTERN ZONE (Texas - Alabama)	1,050,000	0 lb	July 1	until	1,050,000 lb	Opens	07/01/2001	<b>Closed 08/26/2000</b>
Hook and Line								

<sup>1</sup> The Florida east coast subzone, located between the Volusia/Flagler and Dade/Monroe County boundaries, exists only from November 1 through March 31, when the Gulf migratory group of king mackerel extends into that area. From April 1 through October 31, king mackerel landed in that area belong to the Atlantic migratory group.

<sup>2</sup> Fishery is closed through 6:00 a.m. January 16, 2001.

To report violations of commercial trip limits or closures, contact NMFS Law Enforcement Division at 727/570-5344 or 1-800/853-1964. NMFS is an agency of the Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Additional information on southeastern fisheries may be found on the websites of the South Atlantic (<http://www.safmc.nmfs.gov>) or the Gulf of Mexico (<http://www.gulfcouncil.org>) Fishery Management Council; they may be contacted by e-mail at [safmc@noaa.gov](mailto:safmc@noaa.gov) or [gulf.council@noaa.gov](mailto:gulf.council@noaa.gov), respectively.